U.S. Patent Application Seria. No. 10/608,677 Reply to Office Action dated June 15, 2005

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1. (Previously Presented) A slide fastener according to claim 8, wherein the fastener tapes are prevented from entering the left and right fastener element housings.
- (Previously Presented) A slide fastener according to claim 8 wherein the fastener elements are arranged longitudinally at locations other than the longitudinal edges of the fastener tapes.
- 3. (Previously Presented) A slide fastener according to claim 8 wherein the fastener elements are coils.
- 4. (Previously Presented) A slide fastener according to claim 8 wherein the fastener elements are rows of teeth.
- 5. (Canceled)
- 6. (Previously Presented) A slide fastener according to claim 8, wherein a pull is provided on a side part of the slider.
- 7. (Original) A slide fastener according to claim 6, wherein the pull is provided with a string.
- 8. (Previously Presented) A slide fastener comprising:

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a pair cf fastener tapes each having a fastener element for engagement,
said fastener elements protruding from the respective tapes and engaging with
each other, thereby making it possible for the pair of fastener tapes to be joined one above the
other; and

a slider for closing and opening the fastener tapes, said slider having a guide column and a top plate provided above the guide column and a bottom plate provided below the guide column;

said guide column being provided generally perpendicular to the fastener tapes; said top plate including a first end and a second end, said first end extending downward and forming a left side part while said second end extends to an open space; said bottom plate including a first end and a second end, said first end extending upward and forming a right side part while said second end extends to an open space; and wherein left and right fastener element housings are formed between the guide column and the left and right side parts, and the left side part extends beyond the second end of the bottom plate and the right side part extends beyond end of the top plate.

9. (Canceled)